to monitor and unearth such illegal activities by Constituting a separate intelligence cell in the respective drugs control organization and in seeking cooperation of the Pharma Industry, the trade.

III. Union Ministry of Health and F.W. has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS on July 18, 2001 associating members from industry, trade, drug regulatory officials and public representative to go into all aspects of the menace of spurious drugs and suggest remedial measures.

NER Medical Colleges

*114. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of medical colleges of North-Eastern Region converted as Government Medical Colleges;

(b) whether Government contemplate converting the medical colleges of North-Eastern States as Government Medical Colleges; and

(c) whether the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Imphal, will be taken over by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) There are a total of four medical colleges in North-Eastern Region— three colleges in Assam and one college in Manipur. All the three medical colleges of Assam *viz.* (i) Silchar Medical College, Silchar (ii) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh and (iii) Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati, are State Government run Medical Colleges. The Medical College in Manipur in the name of Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, is run by a Society financed by North-Eastern States and Central Government through North-Eastern Council.

(c) There is no such proposal at present with the Government.

Plundering of Tribal Land by Non-tribals

*115. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received about non-tribals plundering more than half of tribal land in some parts of the country like Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ensure that the land belonging to Scheduled Tribes is not changed in land records and returned to tribals only?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) No such report has been received in the Ministry. However, land being a State subject, the State Governments are required to enact proper legislation for prevention of alienation of tribal land. Such legislations are available in almost all Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) States. Besides, the Supreme Court in a recent judgement (SAMATHA Case) has severely restricted transfer of tribal lands. The relevant extracts of the judgements have been circulated to all the concerned State Governments for strict compliance.

Amount spent in elections

†*116. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of funds is spent by the candidates in elections to the Lok Sabha / Vidhan Sabhas and the elections are not held peacefully as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the existing ceiling of expenditure to be incurred by a candidate for Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections; and

(d) whether Government are contempting to bear the expenses of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government takes all precautions for peaceful conduct of elections.

(c) The existing ceiling of expenditure is indicated in a Statement (*See* below)

(d) The Committee on State Funding of Elections (Indrajit Gupta Committee) in its report submitted to the Government of 14.1.1999 had recommended partial State funding, in kind only, to all recognized political parties. The recommendations of the said Committee are being examined by the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.